

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for managing travel time of meeting participants within a scheduling application comprising the steps of:
 - initializing the scheduling application in a computer;
 - identifying a meeting and meeting participants, a meeting location and a meeting time for the meeting;
 - determining an origination location for at least one meeting participant;
 - automatically computing a travel time for said participant based at least in part upon said meeting location and said origination location, the computing step including:
 - constructing a location matrix comprising a plurality of location nodes;
 - drawing a line segment between each pair of location nodes when travel is possible between the pair of location nodes;
 - assigning a link weight to the line segment between the pair of location nodes, wherein the link weight is a value representing a travel time that connects the pair of location nodes;
 - identifying a location node corresponding to the meeting location;
 - identifying a location node corresponding to the originating location; and
 - calculating the travel time based at least in part upon link weights of line segments between the originating location node and the meeting location node;
 - upon receiving a travel condition, adjusting a corresponding link weight to account for the received travel condition and re-computing the travel time based on the adjusted link weight;

calculating a suggested departure time based on the computed travel time; and
presenting a meeting reminder to the meeting participant at some time before the
suggested departure time.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

offering at least one mode of communication for participating in said meeting in a
timely fashion, wherein said offering step is based at least in part upon said travel time
and meeting time.

3-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

before said meeting time, determining based upon said travel time that said
participant will be unable to arrive at said meeting on-time without some adjustment
being made.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of:

responsively adjusting at least one aspect of said meeting so that said meeting
participant can attend said meeting in a timely fashion.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, said adjusting step further comprising at least
one of the following:

changing said meeting time to a later time;

changing said meeting location to reduce an associated travel time for said
participant; and

changing a meeting participation methodology for said participant from physical

meeting attendance to a virtual meeting attendance.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of:

responsively conveying an electronic document to each meeting participant, wherein said electronic document specifies at least one of a meeting adjustment notification and a predicted absence notification.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

identifying a second meeting that is dependent upon said first meeting; and automatically adjusting a parameter of said second meeting responsive to said first meeting exceeding a previously established meeting end time.

10-29. (Cancelled).

30. (New) A computer-implemented system for managing meetings comprising:

a scheduling application initialized in a computer and configured to identify a meeting and meeting participants, a meeting location and a meeting time for the meeting, and to determine an origination location for at least one meeting participant;

a travel time calculator configured to

automatically compute a travel time for the meeting participant based upon the meeting location and the origination location associated with the meeting participant, wherein the travel time calculator computes the travel time by

constructing a location matrix comprising a plurality of location nodes;

drawing a line segment between each pair of location nodes when travel is possible between the pair of location nodes;

assigning a link weight to the line segment between the pair of location nodes, wherein the link weight is a value representing a travel time that connects the pair of location nodes;

identifying a location node corresponding to the meeting location;

identifying a location node corresponding to the originating location;

and

calculating the travel time based at least in part upon link weights of line segments between the originating location node and the meeting location node;

upon receiving a travel condition, adjust a corresponding link weight to account for the received travel condition and re-compute the travel time based on the adjusted link weight;

calculate a suggested departure time based on the computed travel time; and

present a meeting reminder to the meeting participant at some time before the suggested departure time.

31. (New) A machine-readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

initializing the scheduling application in a computer;

identifying a meeting and meeting participants, a meeting location and a meeting time for the meeting;

determining an origination location for at least one meeting participant;

automatically computing a travel time for said participant based at least in part upon said meeting location and said origination location, the computing step including:

constructing a location matrix comprising a plurality of location nodes;

drawing a line segment between each pair of location nodes when travel is possible between the pair of location nodes;

assigning a link weight to the line segment between the pair of location nodes, wherein the link weight is a value representing a travel time that connects the pair of location nodes;

identifying a location node corresponding to the meeting location;

identifying a location node corresponding to the originating location; and

calculating the travel time based at least in part upon link weights of line segments between the originating location node and the meeting location node;

upon receiving a travel condition, adjusting a corresponding link weight to account for the received travel condition and re-computing the travel time based on the adjusted link weight;

calculating a suggested departure time based on the computed travel time; and

presenting a meeting reminder to the meeting participant at some time before the suggested departure time.

32. (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 31, further comprising the step of:
offering at least one mode of communication for participating in said meeting in a timely fashion, wherein said offering step is based at least in part upon said travel time and meeting time.

33. (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 31, further comprising the step of:
before said meeting time, determining based upon said travel time that said participant will be unable to arrive at said meeting on-time time without some adjustment being made.

34. (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 33, further comprising the step of:
responsively adjusting at least one aspect of said meeting so that said meeting participant can attend said meeting in a timely fashion.

35. (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 34, said adjusting step further comprising at least one of the following:

changing said meeting time to a later time;

changing said meeting location to reduce an associated travel time for said participant; and

changing a meeting participation methodology for said participant from physical meeting attendance to a virtual meeting attendance.

36. (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 33, further comprising the step of:
responsively conveying an electronic document to each meeting participant, wherein said electronic document specifies at least one of a meeting adjustment notification and a predicted absence notification.

37. (New) The machine-readable storage of claim 31, further comprising the steps of:
identifying a second meeting that is dependent upon said first meeting; and
automatically adjusting a parameter of said second meeting responsive to said first meeting exceeding a previously established meeting end time.